

Serial No. 10/748,040
Art Unit No. 3623

REMARKS

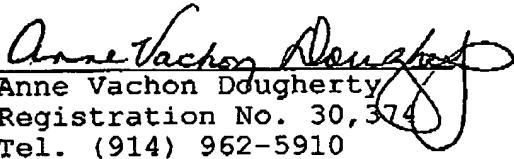
In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 11, 14-16, 18, 20-22, and 24-26 as unpatentable over Thomas in view of Ackerman. The Examiner indicated that Claims 13, 17, 19 and 23 would be allowable if rewritten in independent format, including all of the limitations of the claims from which they previously depended. In addition, informalities in the Specification and in Claim 23 were noted.

By this amendment, Applicants have canceled the non-allowed claims; have amended the Specification; and, have amended Claims 13, 17, 19 and 23 to place them in condition for allowance. The dependency has been changed for each of Claims 14, 15 and 20 to now depend from an allowable claim.

Based on the amendments, Applicants believe that the remaining claims are in condition for allowance. Entry of the amendments and issuance of the claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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